(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has repoorted that during the period September to November, 1988, it had received some anonymous petitions against certain officers of its Bangalore Office. Inquiries made by RBI revealed the allegations to be without substance.

(b) and (c) A section of the Class III employees of the Bangalore Office of RBI had a strike from 21-8-87 to 30-9.87. A section of the Class IV emloyees struck work for a few days in support of the agitation by the Class III emoloyees. According to RBI, the strike had been sparked off following the suspension of three employees for their unseemly behaviour in the chamber of the Manager of RBI, Bangalore Office. RBI has further indicated that the strike was not against any alleged corrupt practices of any officer of the Bank.

**Conversion of Handlooms into Powerlooms**

*310. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had discontinued its experimental scheme of conversion of handlooms into powerlooms in 1961;

(b) whether it is also a fact that contrary to clear Government policies his Ministry is regularising unauthorised powerlooms; and

(c) if so, what steps are being templated in this regard so as to protect the interests of handlooms weavers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Textile Policy 1985 of Government of India aims at removal of structural rigidities in the textile industry and harmonious development of its various sectors. Taking note of the growth of unauthorised powerlooms in the past on account of certain economic advantages enjoyed by them, the Textile Policy stipulates that powerlooms in the organised mill sector and in the unorganised powerloom sector shall, as far as possible, be treated at par. In the context of the unplanned growth of powerlooms in the unorganised sector, the Textile Policy further stipulates compulsory registration of powerlooms.

(c) The Textile Policy envisages that effective measures would be taken to see that the powerlooms do not encroach upon articles reserved for exclusive production on handlooms. Accordingly in order to protect the interest of the handloom sector the Central Government have reserved 22 items of cotton, silk, wool and blends for execlusive production in the handloom sector under the provisions of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. Central Government has also set up Enforcement Machinery to implement the Reservation Orders and is assisting the State Governments in setting up of similar Enforcement Machinery.

**Utilisation of Irrigation capacity**

*313. SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the beginning of the Seventh Five Year Plan the available irrigation capacity was 67.5 m. hectares whereas its utilisation was only 60.5 m. hectares;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have made special efforts

to bridge the gap between irrigation capacity and its utilisation;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what would be the estimated irrigation capacity and its utilisation at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Steps taken include *On-farm development works under* the Command Area Development Programme, *improved water management* practices modernisation and stablisation of existing projects and water budgeting.

(d) At the end of the Seventh Plan period, irrigation potential is expected to be about 80 million hectares and utilisation about 71 6 million hectares.

**Clearance of Irrigation projects of Orissa**

*314. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the major irrigation projects in Orissa which the Central Government have cleared for implementation and the projects which are still in the process of clearance; and

(b) the total investment to be made on all these projects?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Out of six major irrigation projects under implementation in Orissa under the State Plan, five projects have been cleared. Latest estimated cost of these six projects is Rs. 1798 crores and the likely expenditure on these projects upto the end of Seventh Plan is anticipated to be about Rs. 638 crores.

**Recording of ground water table**

*315. SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ground water table is gradually going down in some parts of Madhya Pradesh and also in various parts of the country because of less rainfall and over-exploitation of ground water potential;

(b) whether the Central Government have any proposal to deploy experts so as to identify the schemes through which the ground water table can quickly be recharged and whether the Central Government are also considering to finance such ground water recharging investigation schemes; and

(c) if so, how much assistance is being given to Madhya Pradesh for the year 1989-90 for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Ground Water Board have undertaken studies on artificial recharge of ground water.

(c) An allocation of Rs. 350 lakhs for Centrally Sponsored Schemes of soil conservation in the catchment area of river valley projects in Madhya Pradesh and Rs. 75 lakhs for integrated water-shed management in the Sone river catchment has been proposed for 1989-90.

**Pay structure of the Officers of the Indian Forest Service**

*316. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Forest Service Association has expressed resentment for not making their pay structure a rational one and